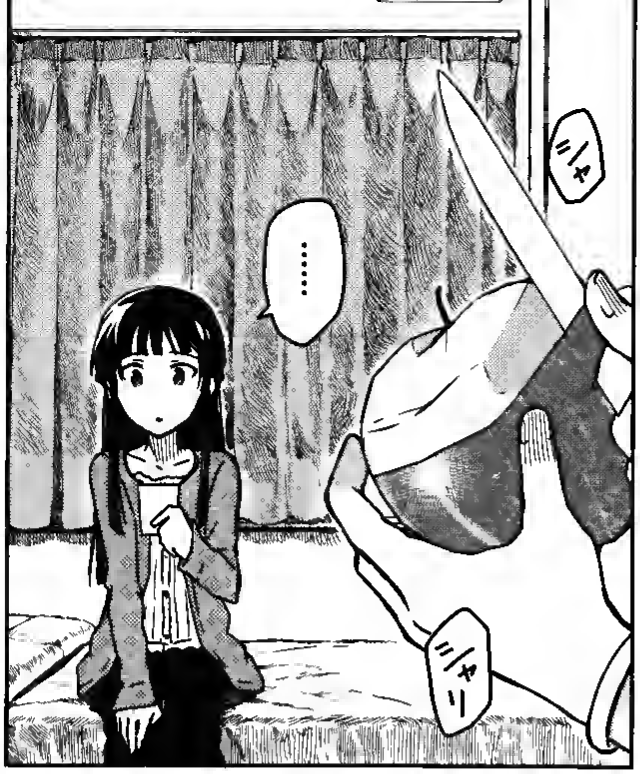
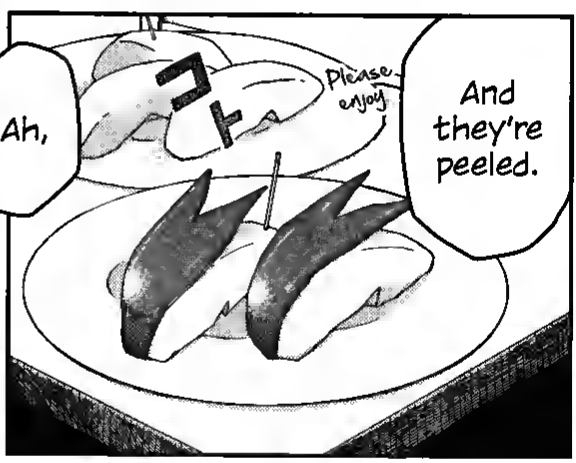
#07: THANK YOU FOR...

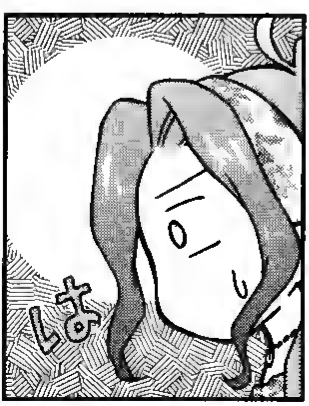

……
ニャ
ニャリ

Shizuka-chan
Get well soon!

I'm sorry. You've come here to check up on me, and on top of that you're doing all this...


Ah,
Please enjoy
And they're peeled.

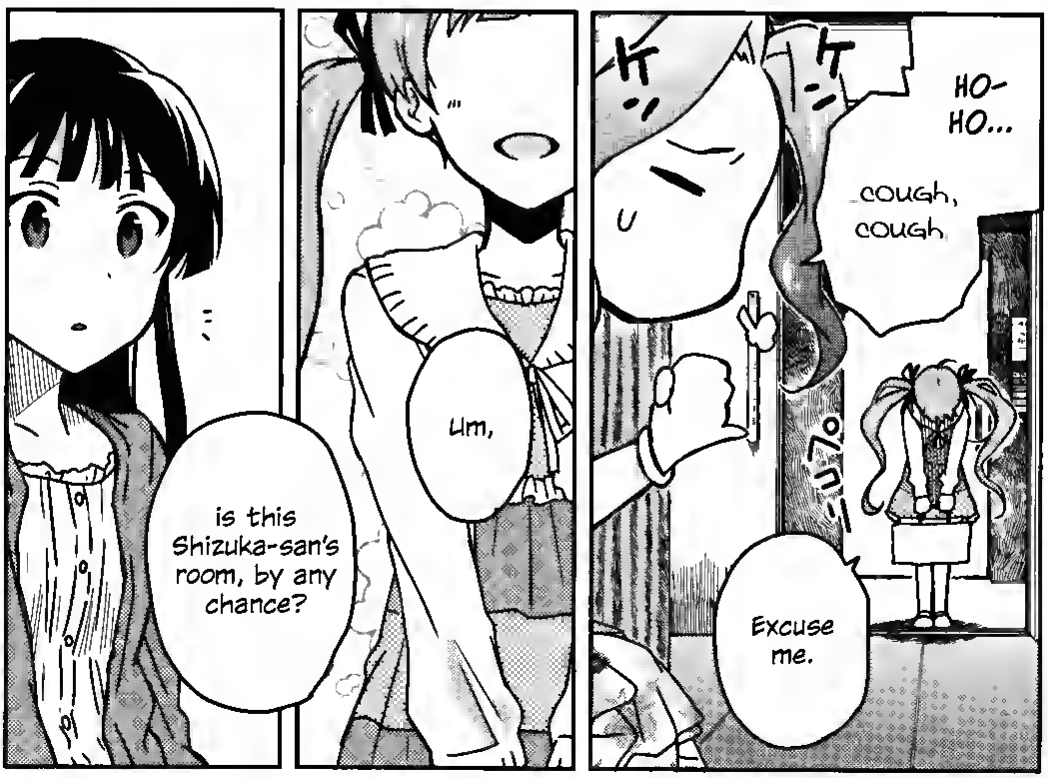
2



Oh my, this much is easy.
Besides, I've gotten used to handling knives from helping out at the shop-

OHHH-
HO-HO-HO!
U-USUALLY I LEAVE ALL THESE THINGS TO MY EXCLUSIVE COOK,
B-BUT A CELEBRITY MUST KNOW HOW TO COOK AS WELL!
二階堂千鶴
CHIZURU NIKAIDO

3


HO-HO...
cough, cough
Excuse me.
Um,
is this Shizuka-san's room, by any chance?

Shizuka-san!
SERIKA!?
箱崎星梨花
SERIKA HAKOZAKI

Serikaaa

Shizuka Saaan

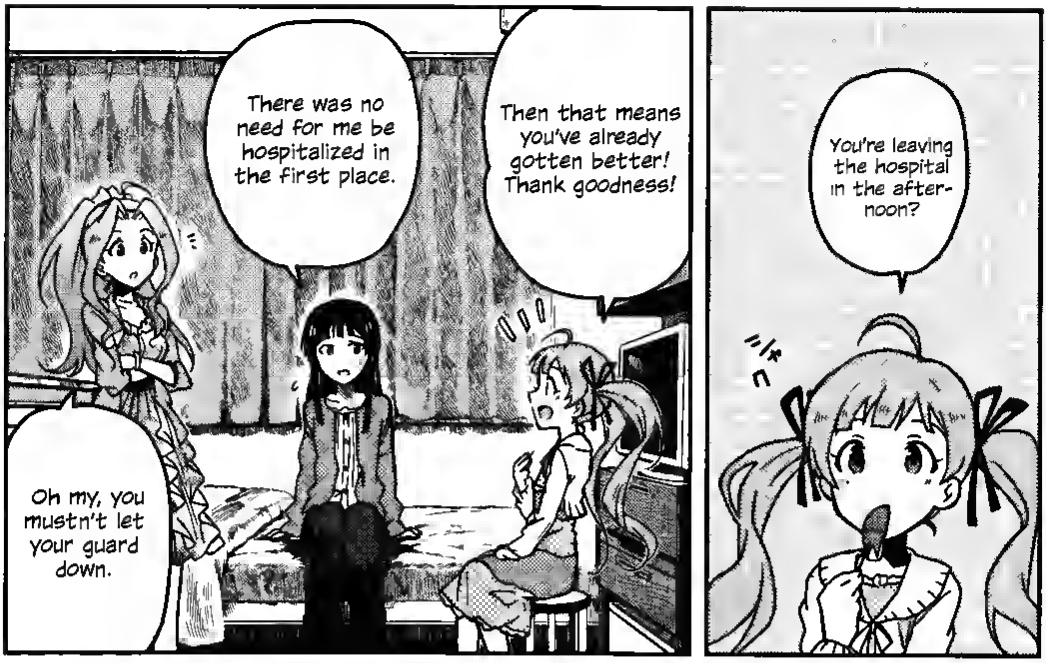
Shizuka-san!
Serika!

5

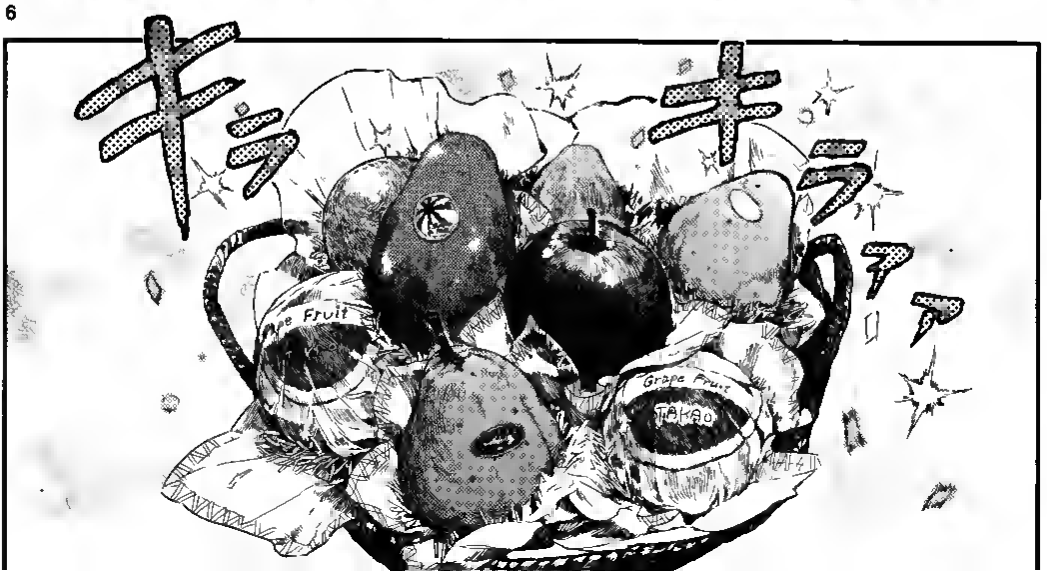
But I'm happy that you look well.

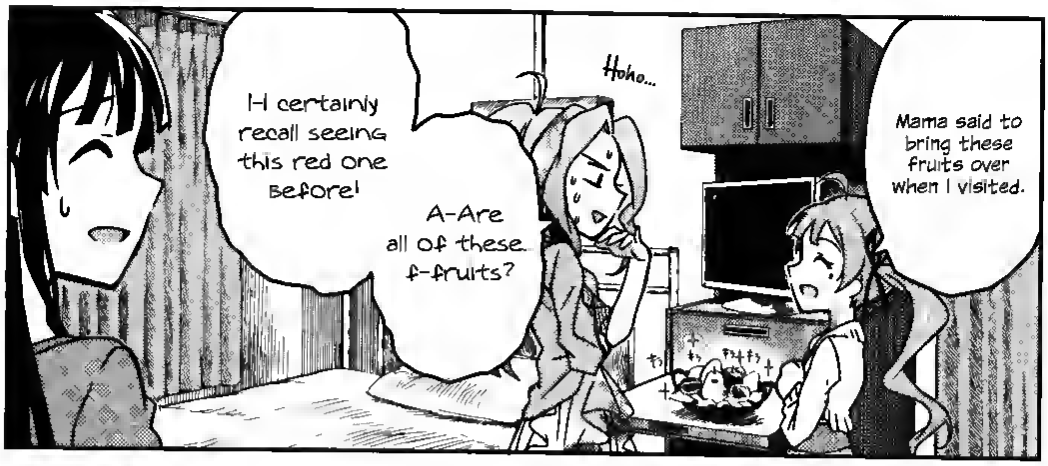
You came here to see me?
Yes. Shizuka-san, I heard you got hospitalized, and I got so worried...so worried...

Serika...
I'm sorry I made you worry.

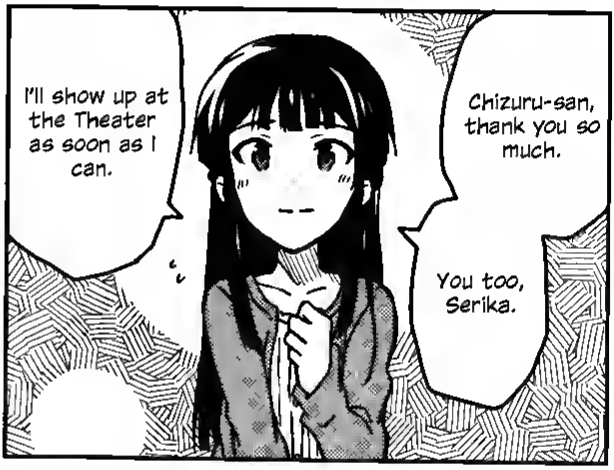

There was no need for me be hospitalized in the first place.
Then that means you've already gotten better! Thank goodness!
Oh my, you mustn't let your guard down.
You're leaving the hospital in the afternoon?

That's right, I also brought something...
Ah.
The apples from this place have lots of honey in them.
At the greengrocer... ahem, at a long-established department store I picked up some high-class apples, so please replenish your energy with them.
Your health is a precious asset, after all.


キラキラ
Pine Fruit
Grape Fruit
Tokyo


Hoho...
Mama said to bring these fruits over when I visited.
A-Are all of these f-fruits?
I-I certainly recall seeing this red one before!

It's my fault for causing trouble for everyone.
Especially Mirai...


I'll show up at the Theater as soon as I can.
Chizuru-san, thank you so much.
You too, Serika.

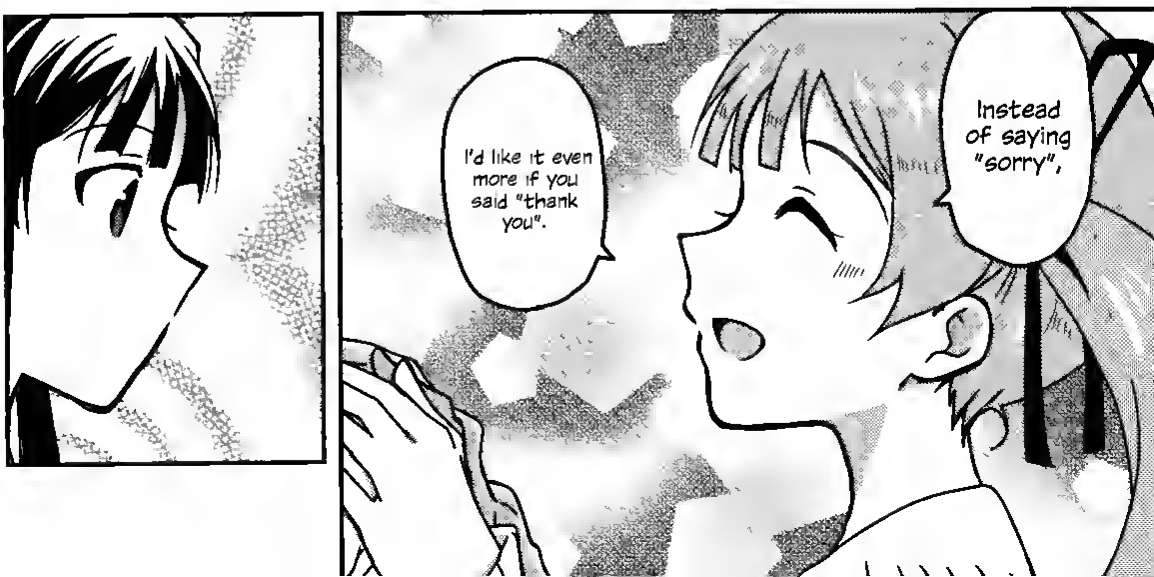
7

Shizuka-san... you weren't causing trouble for...
Shizuka.

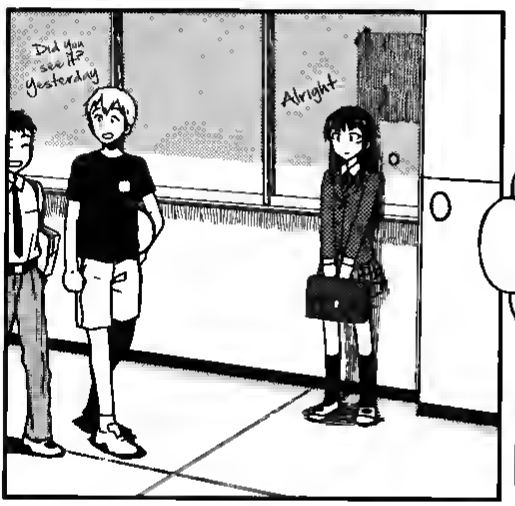
I have to properly apologize
and say I'm sorry...

So stick your chest out and come back with your head held high.
The fact of the matter is that I, Nikaido Chizuru, recognize your efforts.

Serika.
Shizuka-san, I feel the same way...

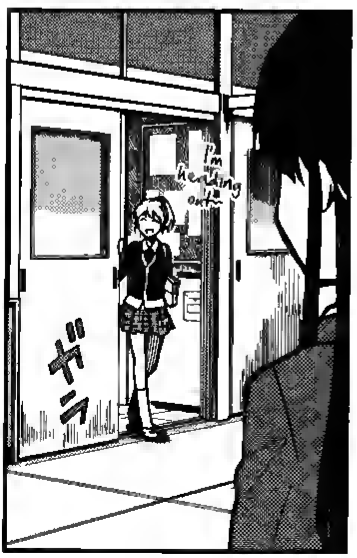

I'd like it even more if you said "thank you".
Instead of saying "sorry",

Thank you.


Did you see it yesterday
Alright

Mirai.
And congratulations on your debut,
Hm...

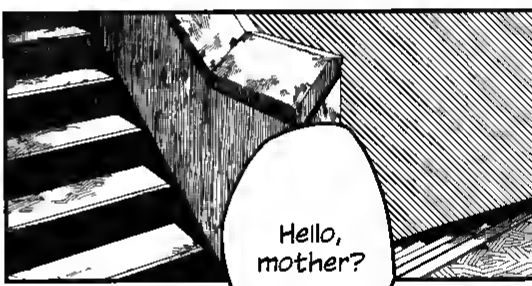
9


I'm heading out
ガラ

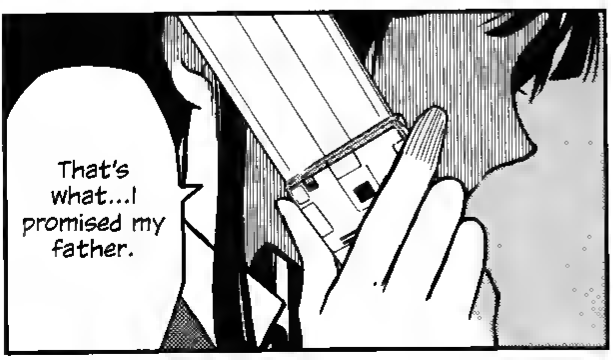
Yeah, yeah.
First, I'll bring up the live,
and then I'll say it.
It'll be fine. It'll be easy.

ヴヴヴ
Incoming call
Mother
080-XXXX-XXXX
SoftBank
ナナ"
It looks like class A's homeroom has ended.
Then Mirai should be .

I'll be fine. I'm not going to the Theater today.
I'll come straight home and rest proper today, tomorrow, and the day after.

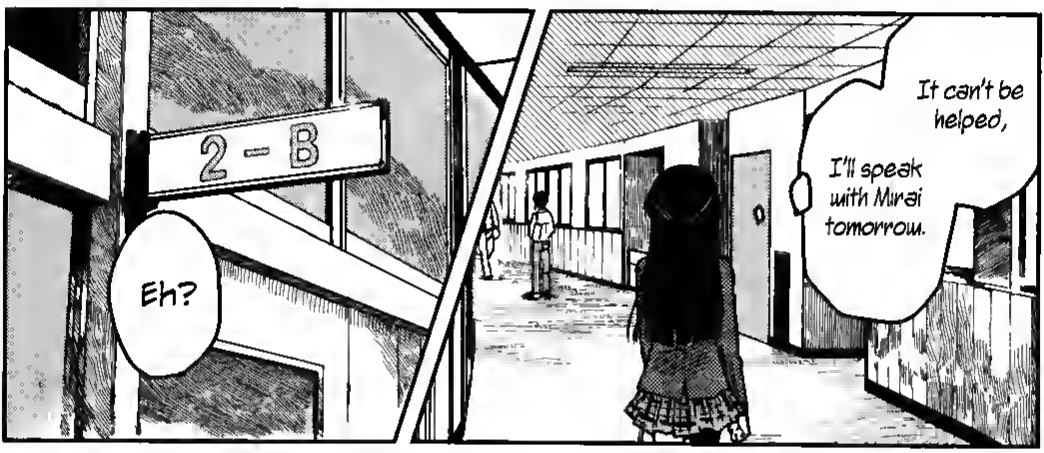

Hello, mother?

Now?
But I'm still at school.

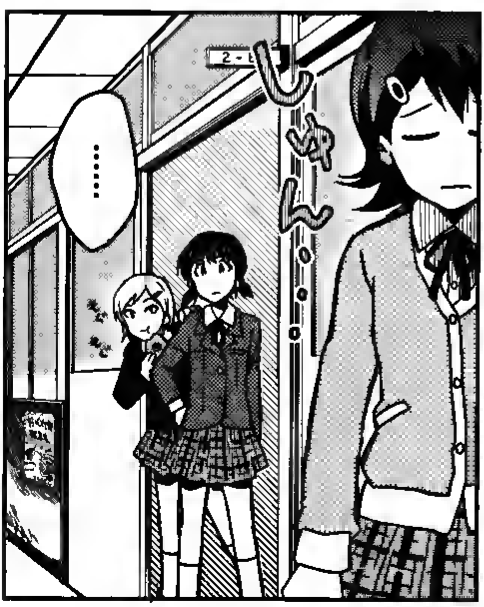

That's what...I promised my father.

ピ

Goodbye.
I said I get it already!
I'll come home right away.

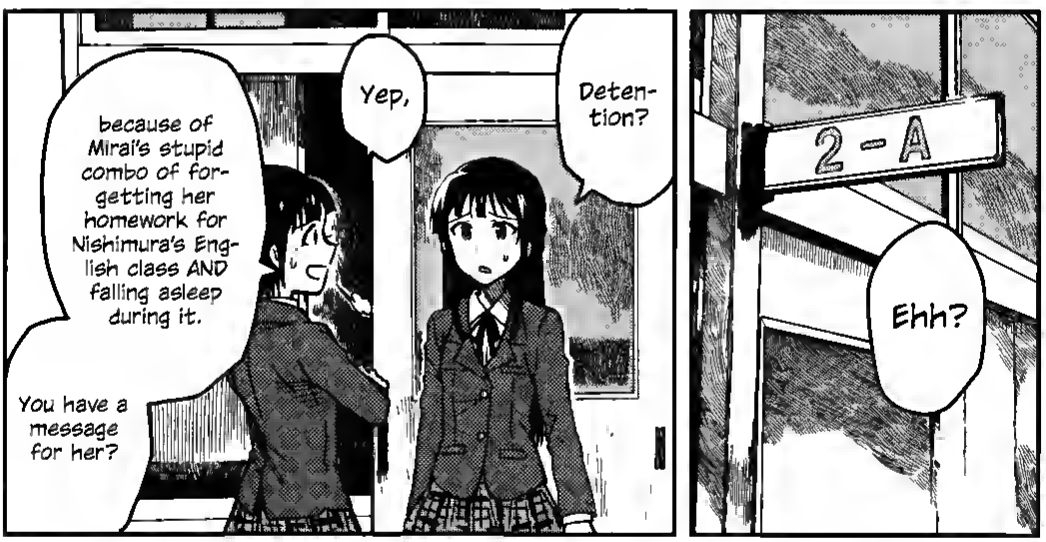

2-B
Eh?
It can't be helped,
I'll speak with Mirai tomorrow.

11


2-
.....

Yeah,
but for some reason, she was in a hurry.
Shizuka-chan went home already?
She came to school today, right?

It seems like she's been getting along with Shizuka lately, but
those two are kind of an odd couple, aren't they?
Is that girl from class A?
Yeah, she's a friend of mine who used to be in the softball club.
Her name's Mirai.
And I thought I'd finally get to meet up with her...

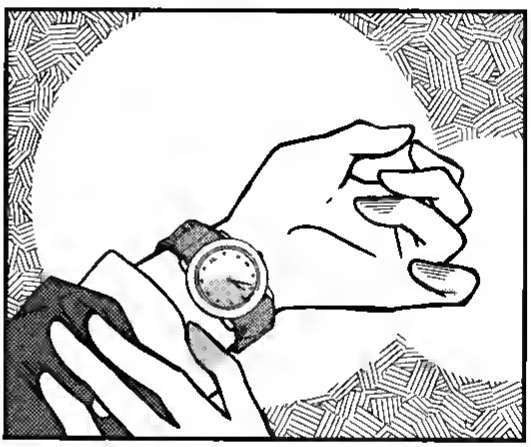

Yep,
Detention?
because of Mirai's stupid combo of forgetting her homework for Nishimura's English class AND falling asleep during it.
You have a message for her?
2-A
Ehh?

Tomorrow's the committee meeting, okay?
Thank you.
No...I'll try again tomorrow.

Ehh~

Shizuka-chan's at a committee meeting today~?
Come on...
She's a class rep, after all.
She said they're discussing the school festival.

Sigh...
Mirai...you're already heading home by now, aren't you



But I can finally go back to the Theater tomorrow.
Even if it has to wait until then, it won't be too late, right?

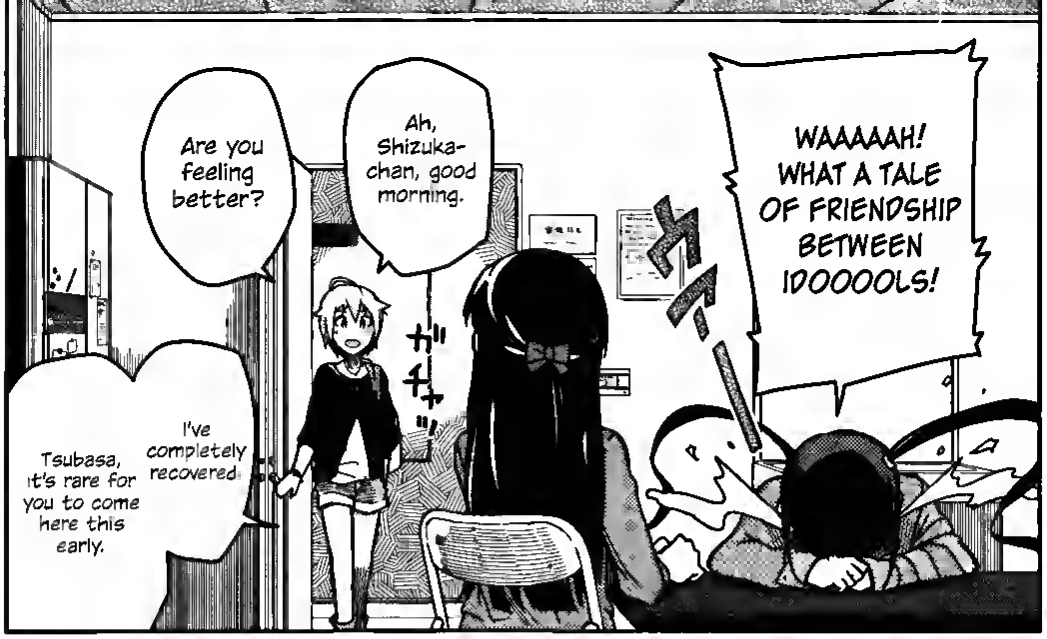
and then!
A-, and th-
765 LIVE

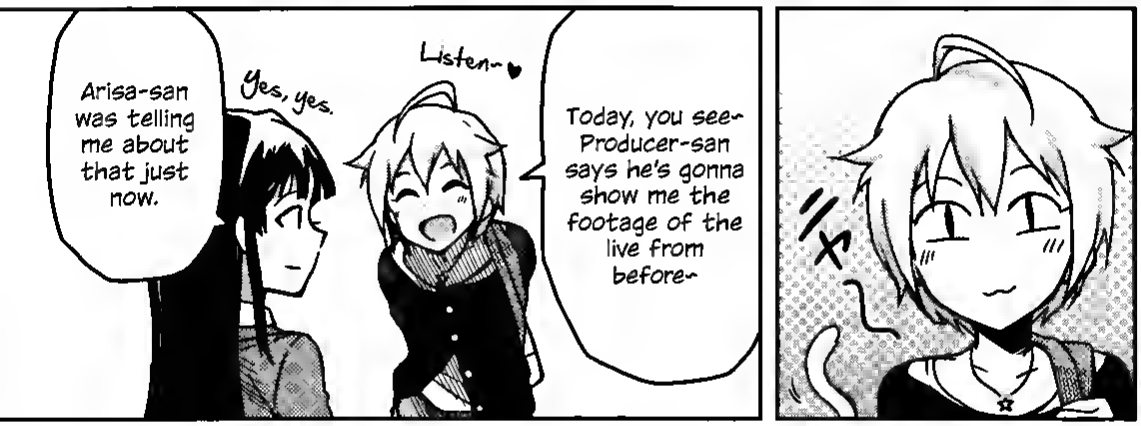
Where should I begin!? The costume!? Well, the costume, you see...
Arisa thinks it was a wonderful performance!
Certainly, it may have not been perfect... BUT!
Getting everyone in the venue caught up in her pace just like that! She truly is an idol!
A-Arisa-san...

14

It was all for Shizuka-chan's sake.
Yes. All of that, and all of this,

I see...
Mirai worked hard, didn't she?


WAAAAAH! WHAT A TALE OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN IDOOOOLS!
Ah, Shizuka-chan, good morning.
Are you feeling better?
I've completely recovered.
Tsubasa, it's rare for you to come here this early.


Today, you see~ Producer-san says he's gonna show me the footage of the live from before~
Listen~♥
Yes, yes.
Arisa-san was telling me about that just now.

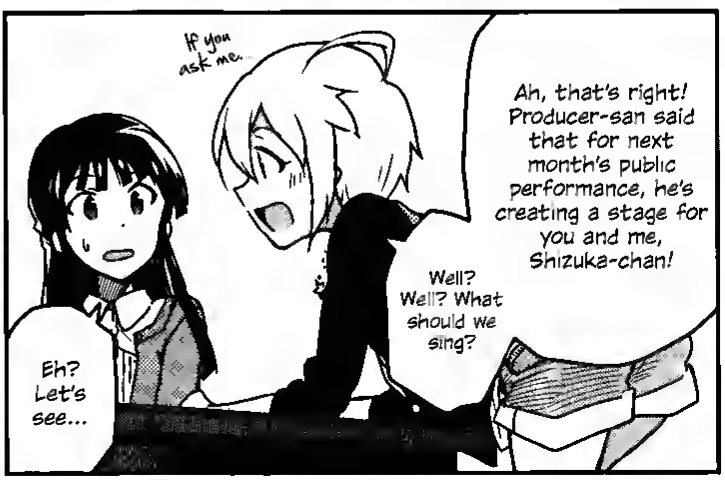
Tsubasa, I'm sorr- ...thank you.
Umm...
For covering for me.
Ehe, it was no problem.
And besides...

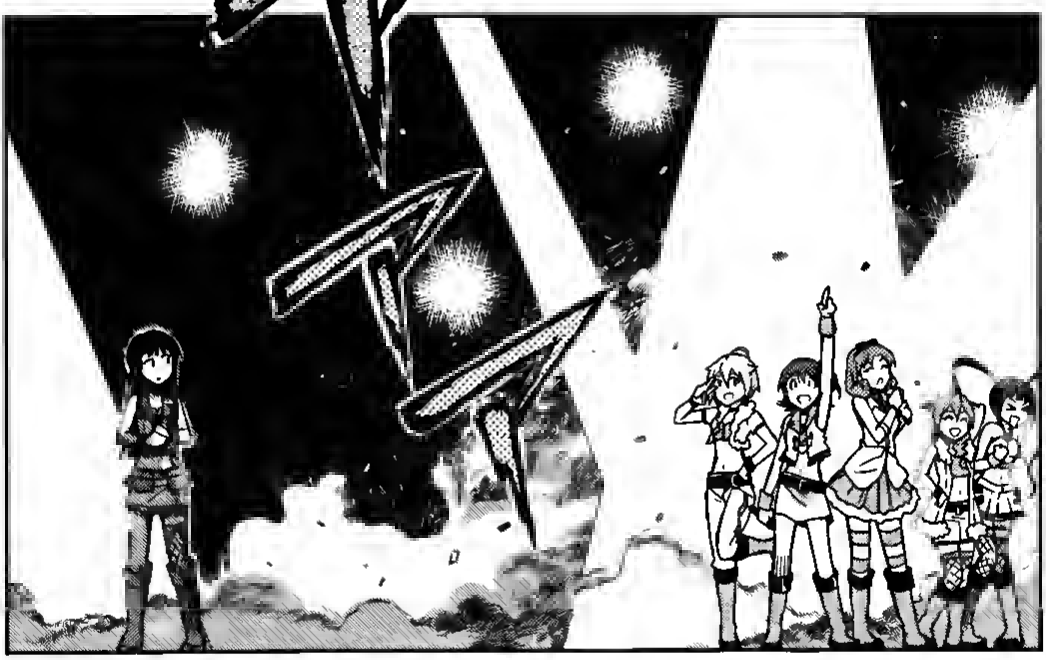
Mirai and I might be pretty compatible with each other♪

So it's easy for me to do whatever I want, too.
I mean, Mirai's dance moves are all over the place.

16

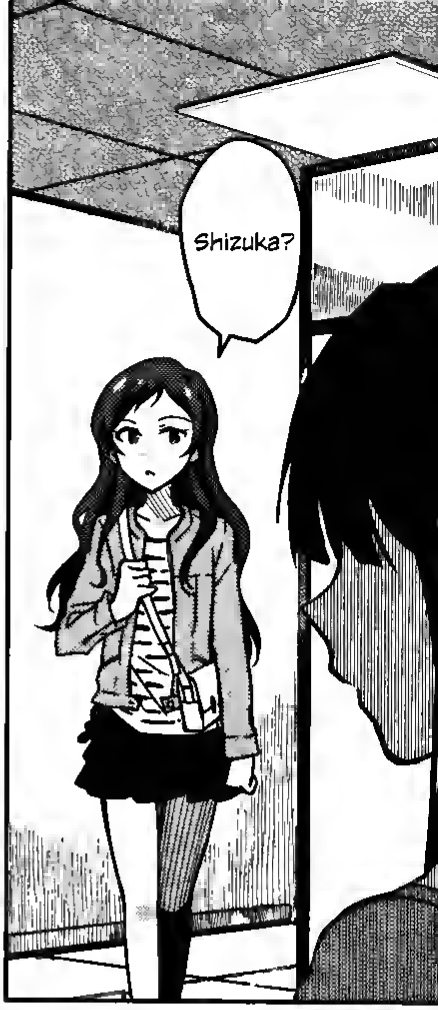
Umm...


If you ask me...
Ah, that's right! Producer-san said that for next month's public performance, he's creating a stage for you and me, Shizuka-chan!
Well? Well? What should we sing?
Eh? Let's see...



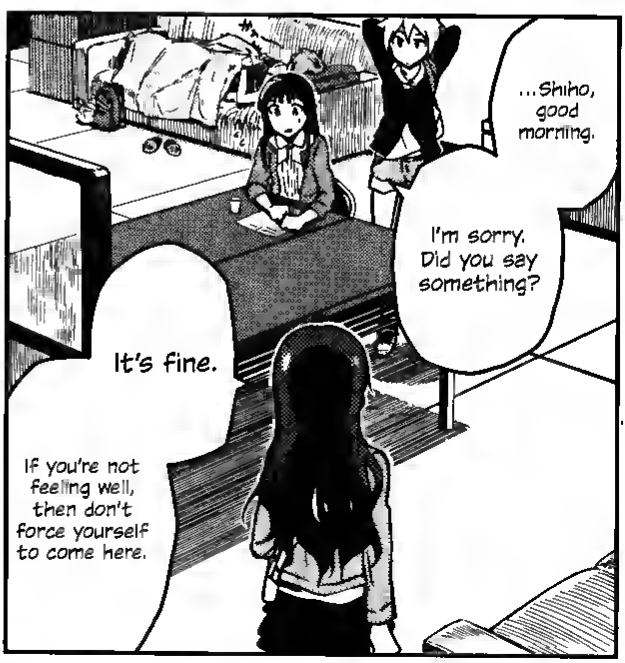
17

Are you listening?
北沢志保
SHIHO KITAZAWA


Shizuka?

18

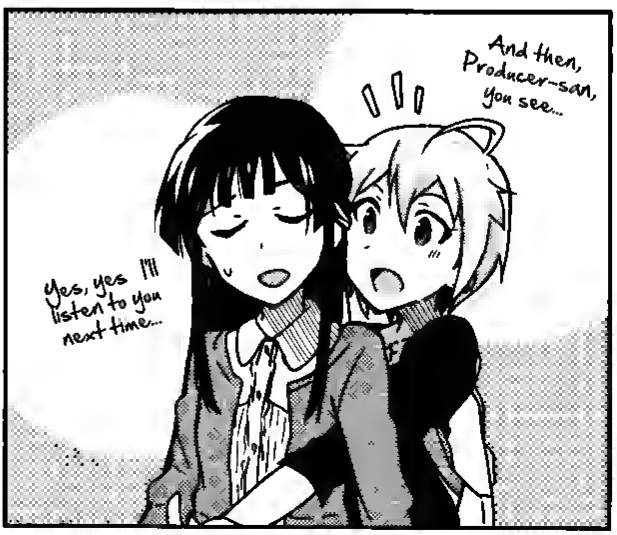
If you collapse at an important time again, you'll cause trouble for us.

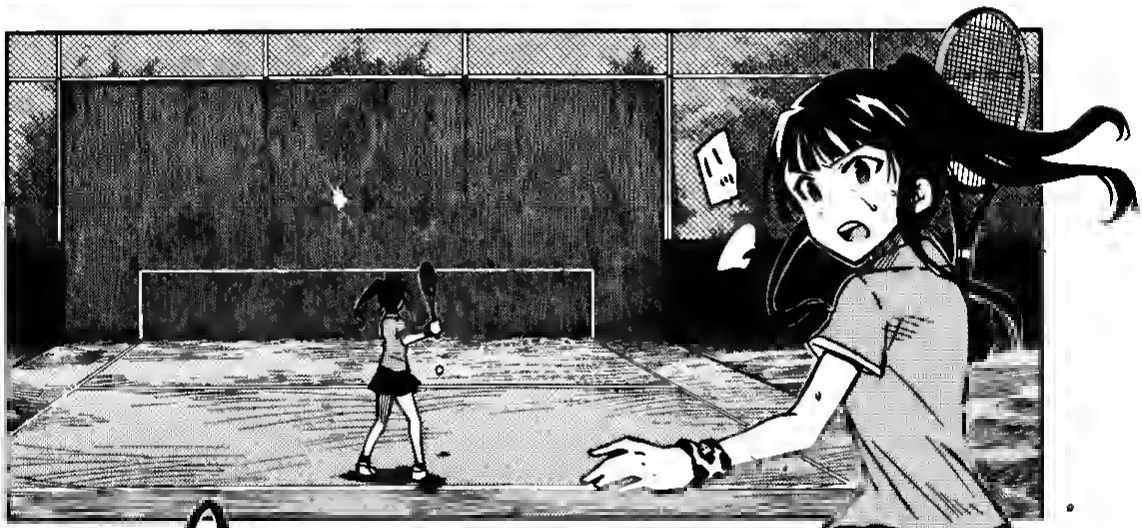

...Shiho, good morning.
I'm sorry. Did you say something?
It's fine.
If you're not feeling well, then don't force yourself to come here.

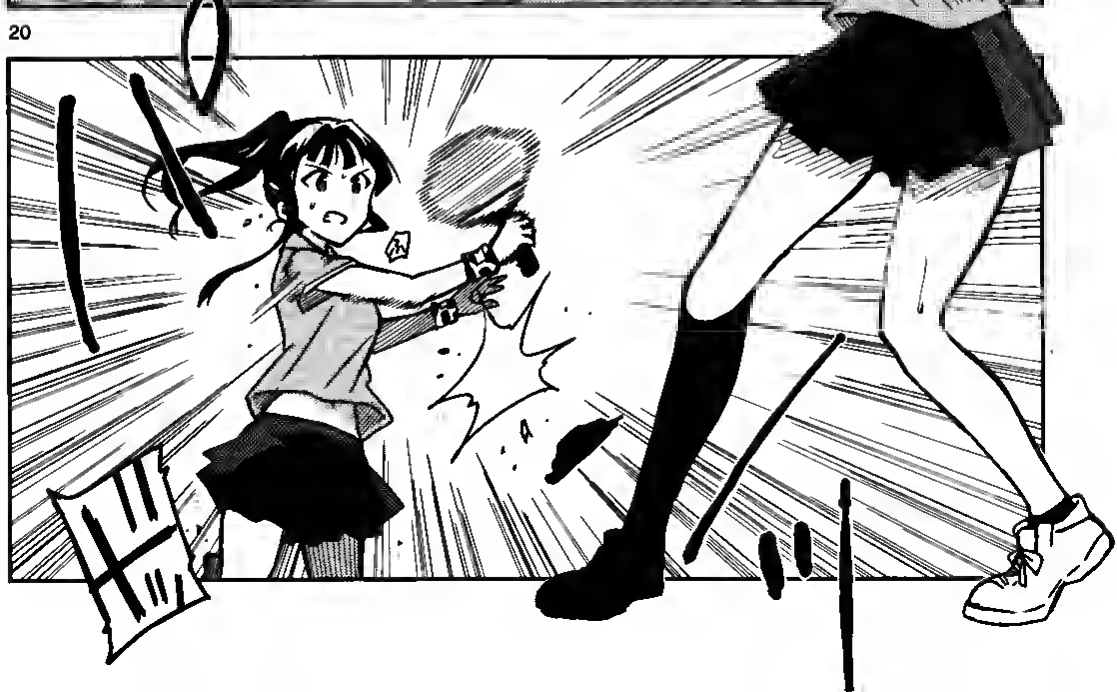
Shiho-chan, you're harsh.
And you're all soft.
Managing your health is part of your job as a professional, isn't it?
...it's just as Shiho says.

Sorry, Tsubasa. I'm going to go home today, after all.
It looks like I'm still not feeling well.
But I still have so many things I wanna talk about~
Ehh~

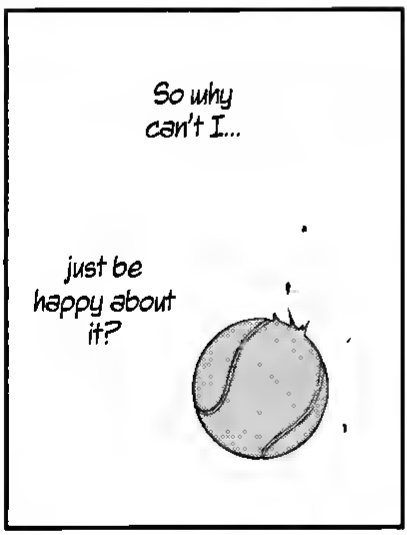
.....


And then, Producer-san, you see...
Yes, yes I'll listen to you next time...





Mirai and I might be pretty compatible with each other♪
Getting everyone in the venue caught up in her pace just like that! She truly is an idol!


So why can't I...
just be happy about it?

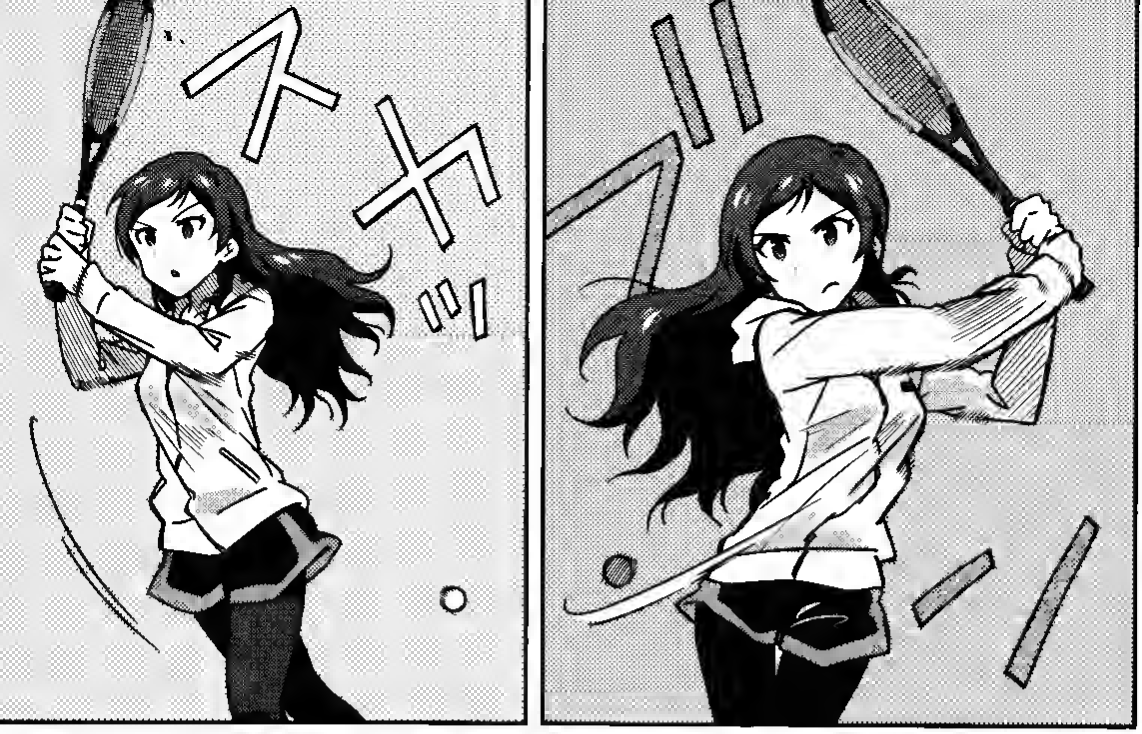
Everyone acknowledges Mirai as an idol.
There's nothing wrong with that.

That doesn't look like a good exercise for someone who's still recovering.
Aren't you hitting that ball around too hard?

Water.
Are you keeping yourself hydrated?
……
So about last week's live.

22

Lend me your racket.
Shizuka.
The live, huh? W-What about it?
……


スパッ
ブン

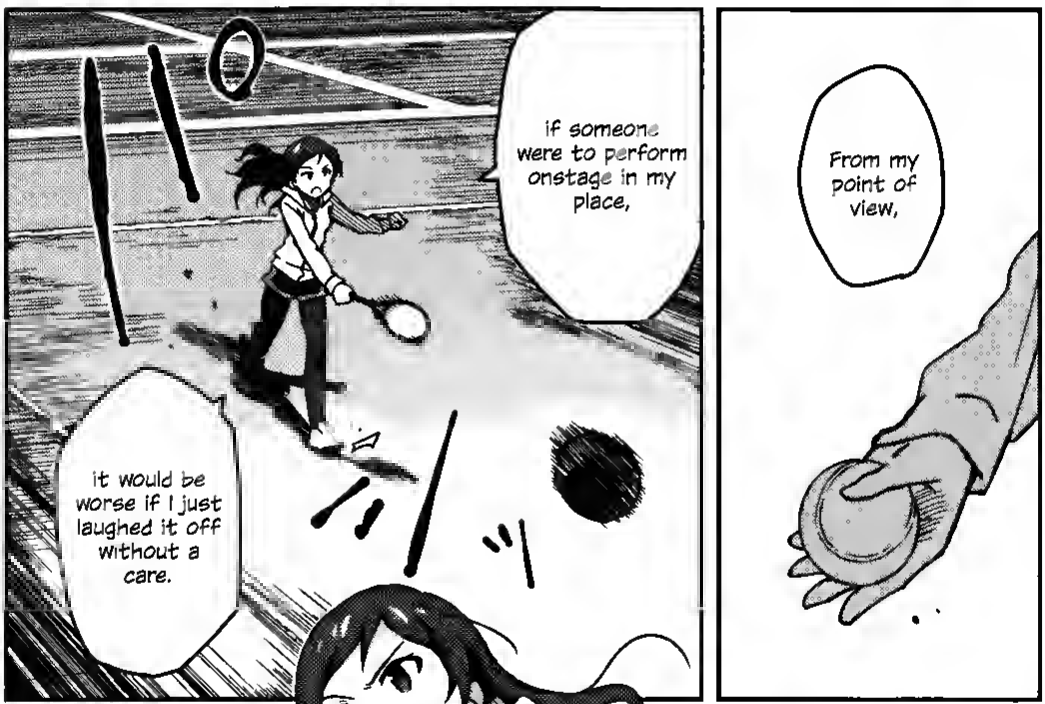
……
パコッ

23

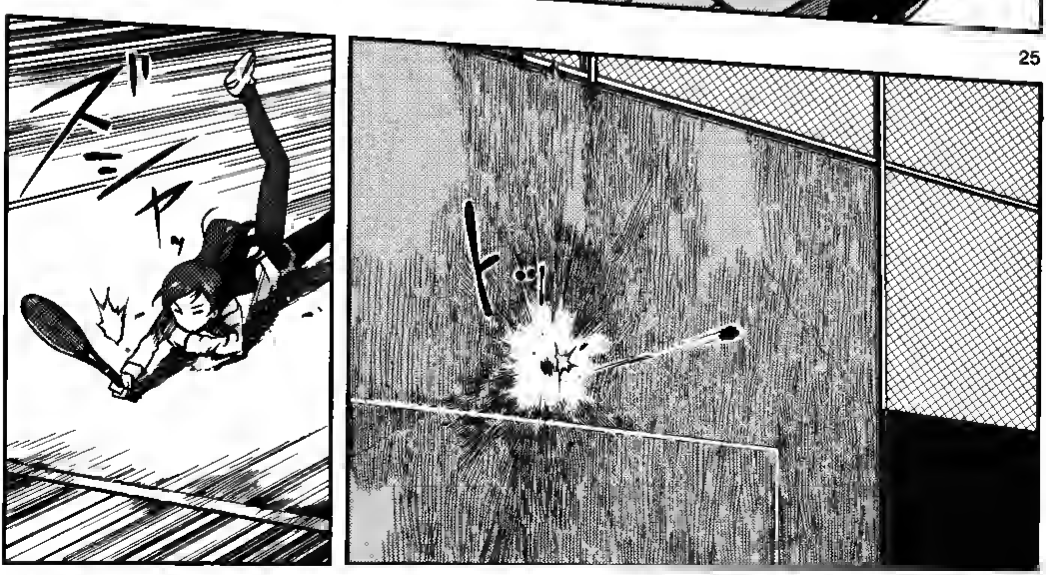
I played it once during class.
Anyway, you're sick, so sit down.

...Shiho, could this be your first time playing tennis?

I hate losing.
Is there something wrong with that?


From my point of view,
if someone were to perform onstage in my place,
it would be worse if I just laughed it off without a care.

Because...

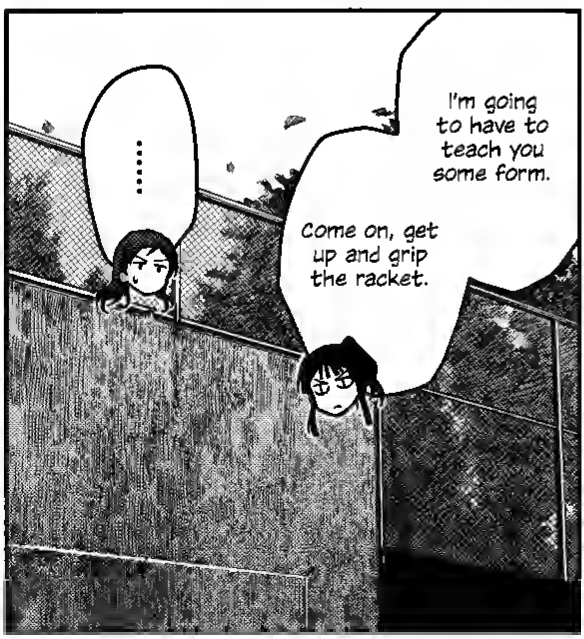


25

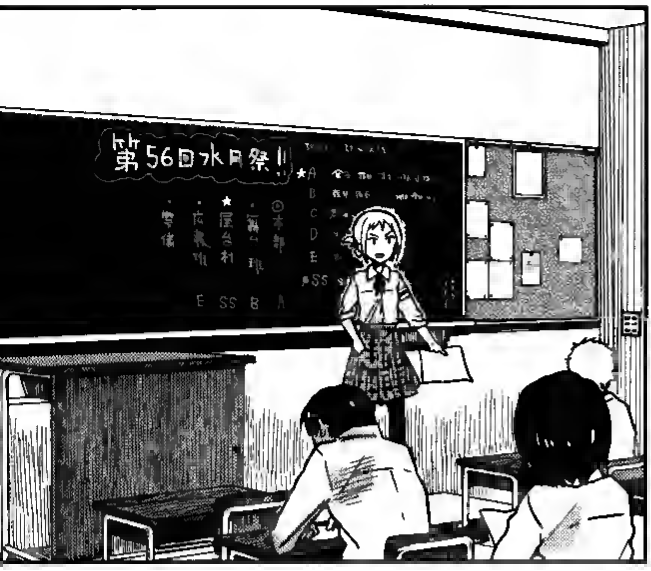
I hit it.

SHIHO!
ARE YOU OKAY!?

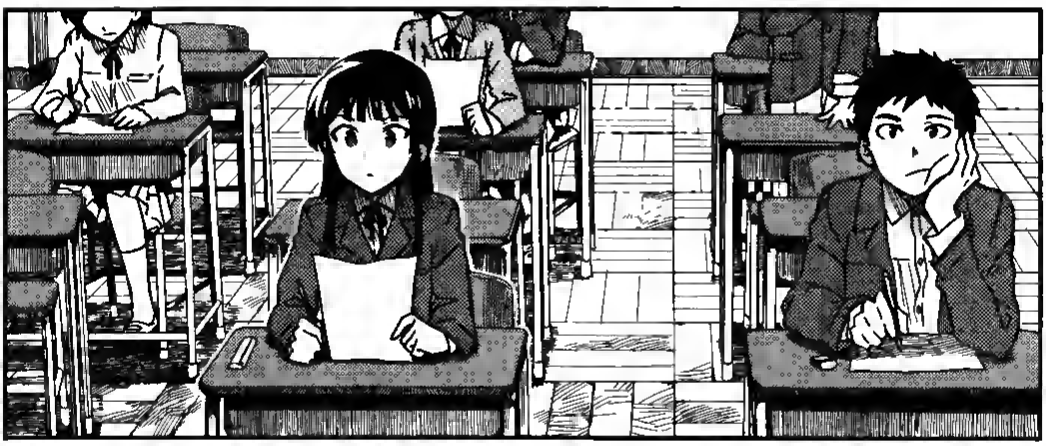
26


.....
I'm going to have to teach you some form.
Come on, get up and grip the racket.

...Shiho.


第56回水月祭!!

キーン
コーン



27

sigh
I hope
this committee meeting ends soon.

To Mirai
The letter...

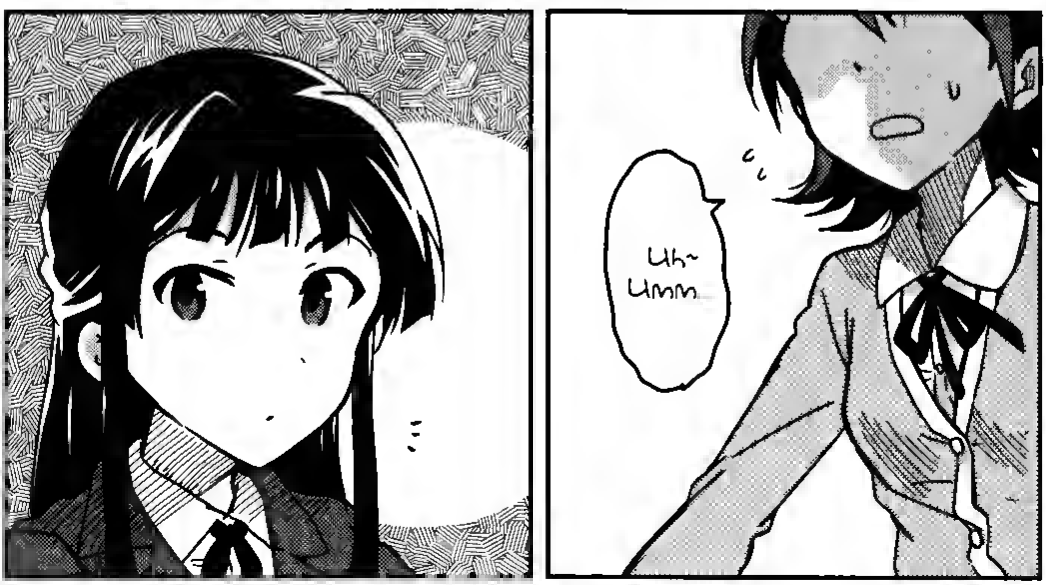
We're rivals, after all.
Mirai and I are rivals...

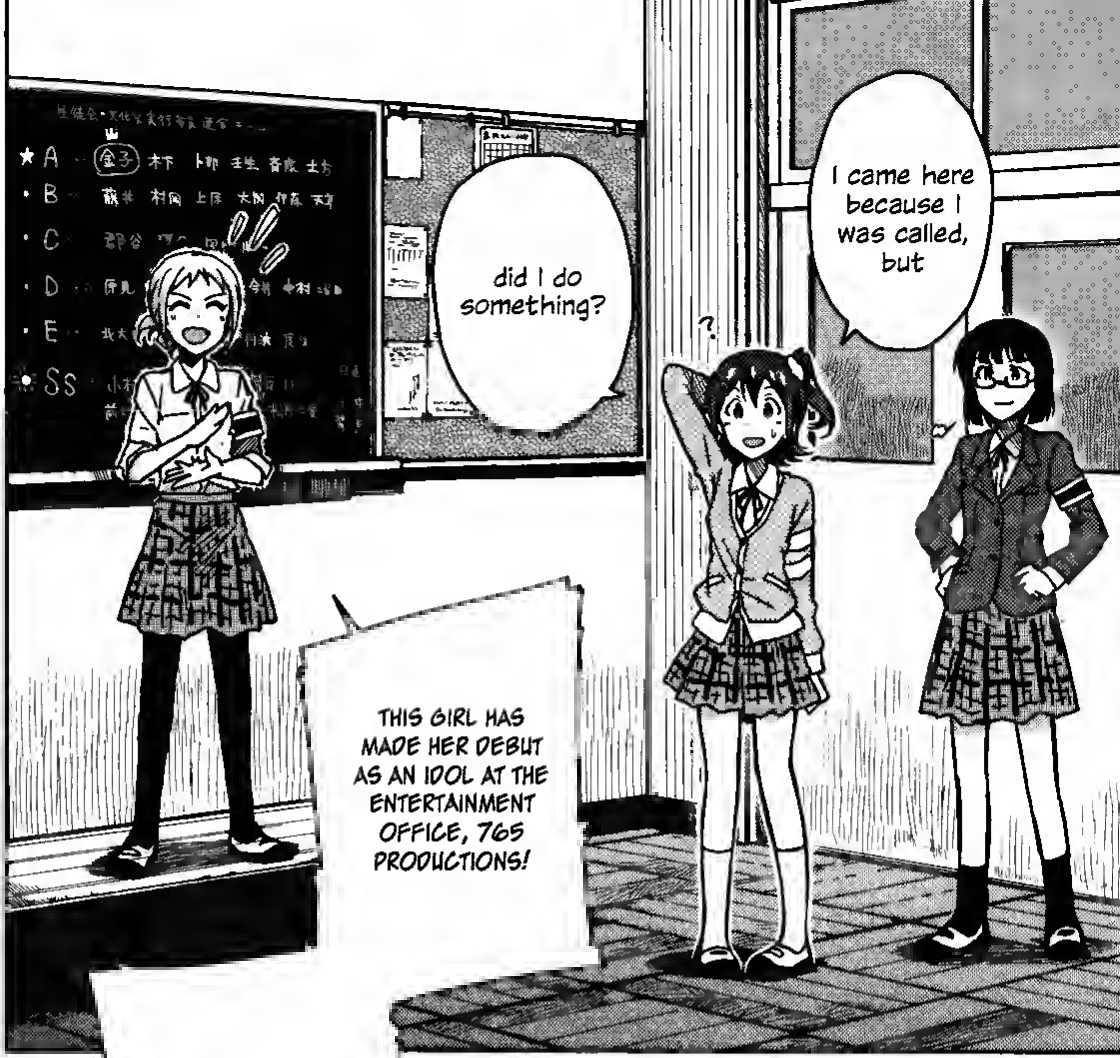
It's a little embarrassing, but
all I have to do is meet her and give her this.

Mirai, thank you.
And,
congratulations on your debut.
And that's why I feel both happy and jealous towards her.
I have to recognize those feelings and tell her.

Ehh,
next up, we have our plans for the afternoon performance...
The gloomy feeling inside my chest seems to have cleared up somehow.
I'll have to thank Shiho, too.
But first off, I have someone I'd like to introduce. Everyone, atte~n~tion!
Please, come in, come in.

29


Uh~ Umm


I came here because I was called, but
did I do something?
?
THIS GIRL HAS MADE HER DEBUT AS AN IDOL AT THE ENTERTAINMENT OFFICE, 765 PRODUCTIONS!

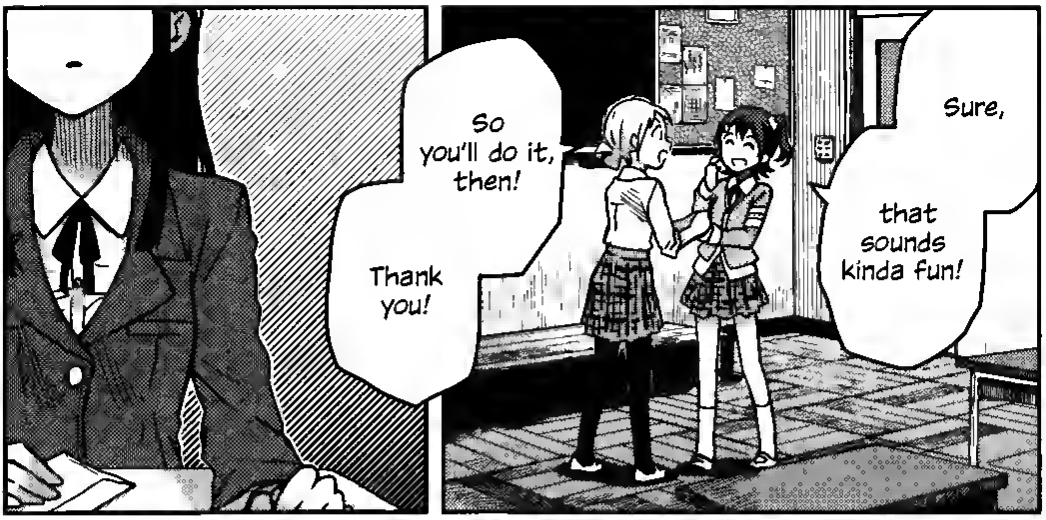
PLEASE GIVE A ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR CLASS 2-A'S KASUGA MIRAI-KUN!
パチパチパチ

DID YOU APPEAR ON TV!?
DON'T YOU KNOW? THEY'VE BEEN SHOWING UP A LOT LATELY.
EHH!?
ISN'T 765 PRODUCTIONS WHERE RYUUGUU KOMACHI AND HOSHII MIKI COME FROM!?
WHEN DID YOU DEBUT?
Who are they? Idols?

Onstage!

KASUGA-KUN, I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU TO PERFORM ONSTAGE AT OUR SCHOOL FESTIVAL!
HOW ABOUT IT!?

31


So you'll do it, then!
Thank you!
Sure, that sounds kinda fun!

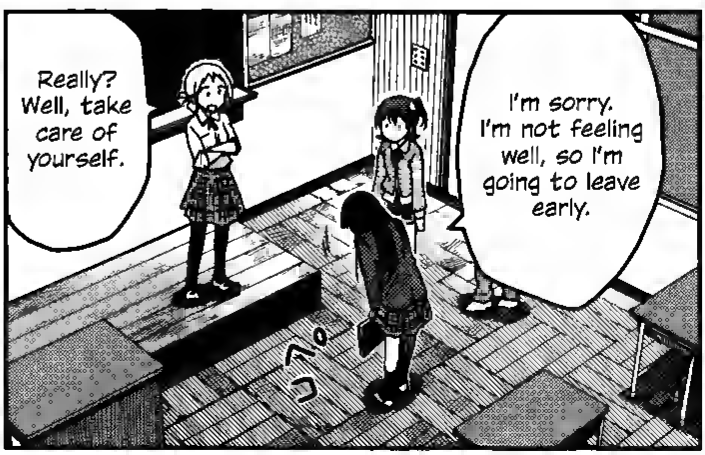
はぁっ

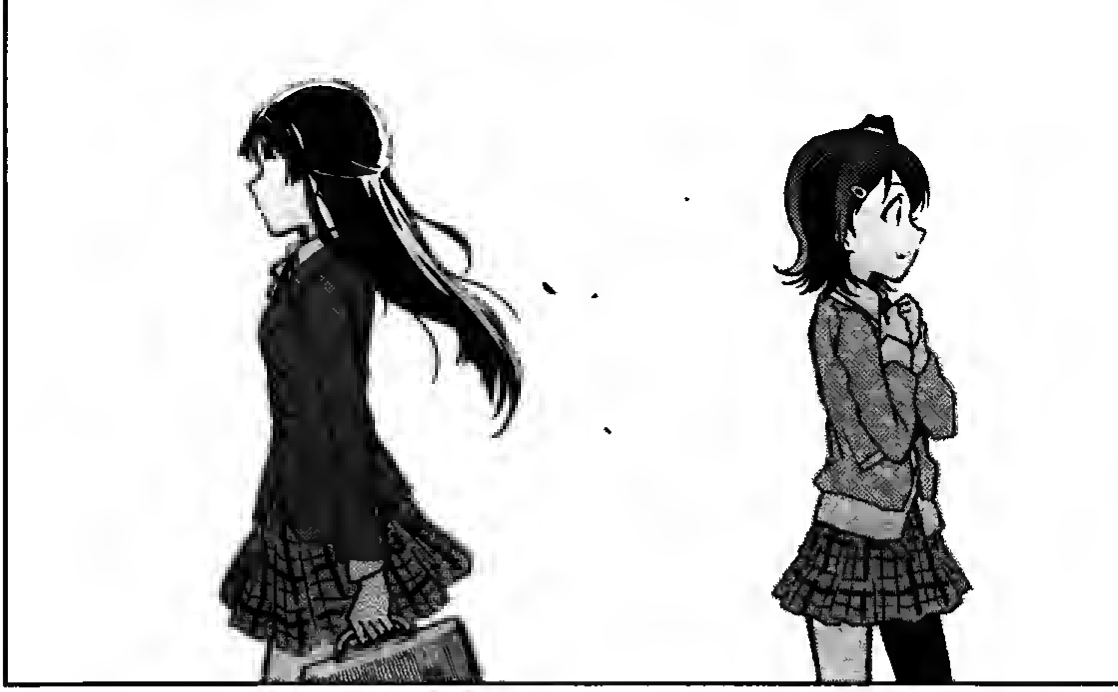
Umm...

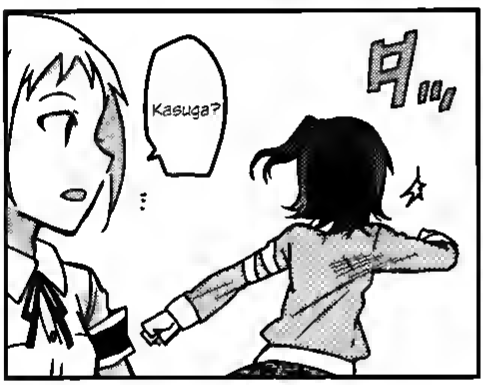
Shizuka-chan!
I finally got to see you! I...
Chairman

33

Shizuka-cha...


Really? Well, take care of yourself.
I'm sorry. I'm not feeling well, so I'm going to leave early.





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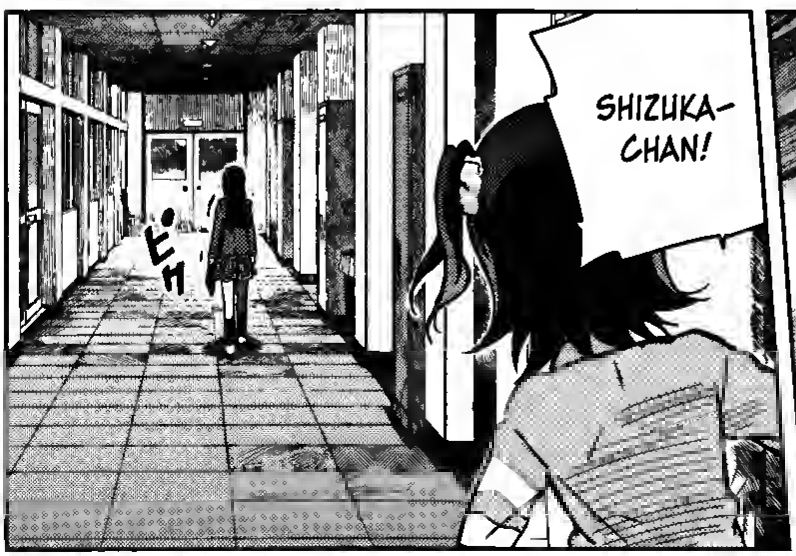

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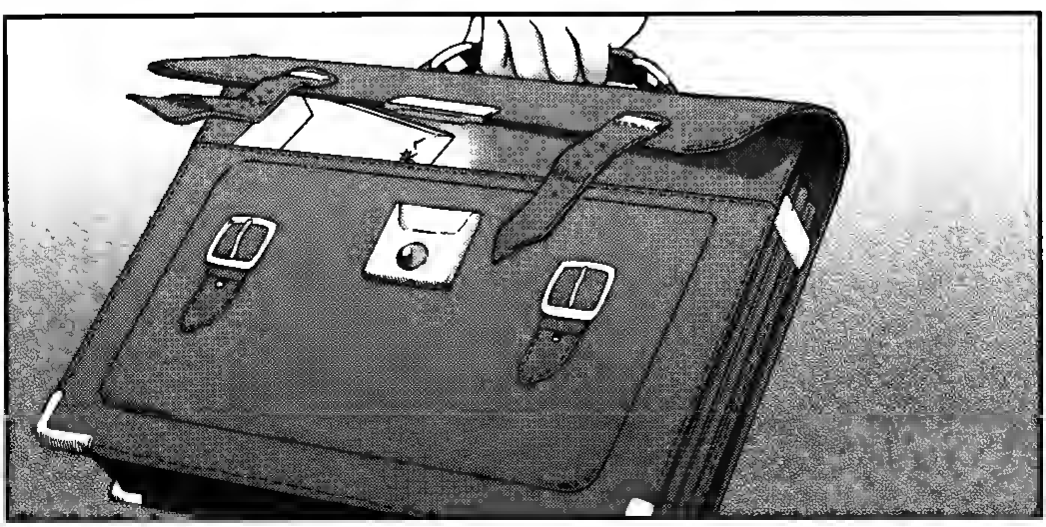

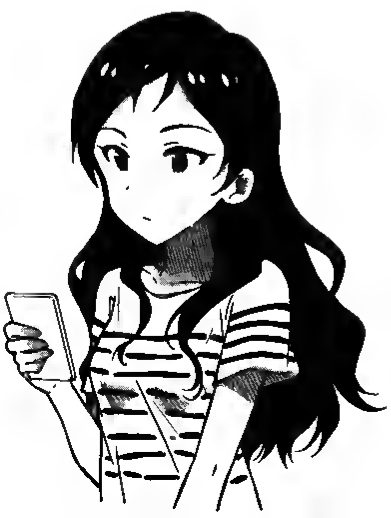

Shiho Kitazawa

Age: 14
Birthday: January 18th
Blood type: A
Height: 161 cm
Weight: 46 kg
Three sizes: 83-56-84
Hobbies: Looking at her favorite picture books
Skill: Good memory and concentration
Likes: Plushies

Chizuru Nikaido

Age: 21
Birthday: October 21st
Blood type: B
Height: 165 cm
Weight: 50 kg
Three sizes: 85-58-86
Hobbies: Checking clothing magazines at cafes
Skill: Remembering faces
Likes: The look of longing